



Free Ranger Programs September 4 – September 10, 2016

Sunday, September 4

8:30 pm Evening Program – “A Ranger’s Story” Come hear about the adventures and experiences of one National Park Ranger from the Mississippi River to the Medano. Weather permitting. Flashlights and jackets suggested. Brief telescope viewing will take place afterwards, weather permitting. Amphitheater, 45 Minutes

Monday, September 5

1pm Discovery Activity – Discover how the dunes were formed and other fascinating aspects of the park and preserve. Visitor Center, 25 minutes

3:30 pm Afternoon Program - “Tracks In The Wild” - Explore a portion of the Great Sand Dunes preserve and discover which of our wild animals have left their telltale tracks behind and some unique historic uses for plants! Half-mile hike, meet at the Montville Nature Trailhead. Bug spray, sunscreen, water, and ball cap recommended. 45 minutes

Tuesday, September 6

3:30 pm Afternoon Program - “Tracks In The Wild” - Explore a portion of the Great Sand Dunes preserve and discover which of our wild animals have left their telltale tracks behind and some unique historic uses for plants! Half-mile hike, meet at the Montville Nature Trailhead. Bug spray, sunscreen, water, and ball cap recommended. 45 minutes

Wednesday, September 7

3:30 pm Afternoon Program – “Montville Nature Hike” - Find your inner park ranger on this short, interactive hike. Learn about the diverse and unique habitats of the park and preserve. Learn about some of the common plants and animals that call this amazing place home. Great for all ages! Montville Nature Trail, 45 minutes.

Thursday, September 8

1pm Discovery Activity – “The Singing Sands” - The Great Sand Dunes are a symphony of geological and animal sounds! Discover how the Great Sand Dunes were formed while making the wild sounds found in the park. Fun for all ages! Visitor Center, 25 minutes

3:30pm – Afternoon Program - “Art for All Ages” - Come paint the dunes with a Ranger-artist and learn about the unique environment surrounding you! Art supplies will be provided. Visitor Center, 30 minutes

Friday, September 9

3:30pm – Afternoon Program - “Art for All Ages” - Come paint the dunes with a Ranger-artist and learn about the unique environment surrounding you! Art supplies will be provided. Visitor Center, 30 minutes

8:00 pm Night Hike – “Taking a Walk on the Night Side” - Join a park ranger on a hiking adventure as we explore the park – but after dark! Come learn about some of the fascinating cultures that have inhabited the area, as well as some of the plants and animals which call the park home; especially those who come out at night! Jacket, hat and flashlight recommended. Amphitheater parking lot, 1 hour

Saturday, September 10

8pm Evening Program – “The Park after Dark” - Half the park is after dark! Discover the beautiful secrets of owls, nocturnal animals, stars, planets, galaxies, our moon, and meteors. Touch real pieces of the Moon and Mars! Brief constellation tour with laser pointer and telescope afterward, weather permitting. Amphitheater, 45 minutes